



Image

1761

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Edward A. Squillante, Jr.
Reg. No. 38,319
Attorney for Applicant

3/11/04
Date of Signature

PATENT

CASE #F3277(C)
UNUS #01-0266-UNI

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Blair et al.
Serial No.: 10/090,979
Filed: March 5, 2002
For: Black Tea Manufacture

Group: 1761
Examiner: A. Weier
Edgewater, New Jersey 07020

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §121

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-14, which is drawn to a process for making black tea leaf. The above-election is traversed for the reasons set forth hereinbelow.

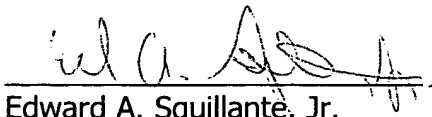
The Examiner has issued a restriction requirement under 35 USC 121 identifying the following groups of claims:

- (a) Claims 1-14, drawn to a process for making a black tea leaf, claimed in class 426, subclass 49; and
- (b) Claims 15-16, drawn to a black tea leaf product, classified in class 426, subclass 49.

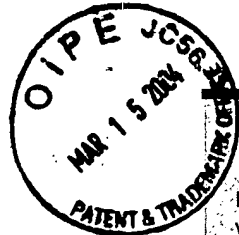
Applicants submit that the claims of the invention are interrelated and that groups (a) and (b) require a search of similar technical arts. Thus, Applicants further submit that the search and examination of the entire patent application can be made without a serious burden to the Examiner (MPEP 803).

Thus, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and that claims 1-16 be considered for prosecution on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,


Edward A. Squillante, Jr.
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 38,319

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Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☐ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	(2) * Claims Remaining After Amendment		(4)** Highest No. Previously Paid For	(5) Present Extra	(6) Rate	(7) Additional Fee
Total Claims		Minus			\$ 18.00	
Independent Claims		Minus			\$ 86.00	
Multiple Claims					\$ 290.00	
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$	

*If the entry in Column (2) is less than the entry in Column (4), write "0" in Column (5).

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☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required to our deposit account No. 12-1155, including all required fees under

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.16;

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.17;

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.18.

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Edward A. Squillante, Jr.
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